

# Designer of Travel Memories

### Flanders, a Region to (Re)discover

Flanders, a vibrant region in northern Belgium, is full of hidden treasures waiting to be (re)discovered.

With its lively cities, fascinating museums, picturesque windmills, romantic canals, renowned craft beers, refined cuisine, and much more, Flanders offers a unique experience for travellers seeking authenticity.

Let yourself be charmed by medieval architecture, colourful markets, and bustling city life.



#### The Must-See Flanders Heritage



Don't miss the opportunity to (re)discover some of Flanders' most iconic landmarks and cultural treasures. Admire the Belfry of Bruges and its historic city centre, both UNESCO World Heritage sites, as well as the picturesque canals that wind through the medieval streets. Stroll through the Grote Markt of Antwerp, with its ornate guild houses and Town Hall, and visit the Cathedral of Our Lady, home to several masterpieces by Rubens. Discover Saint Bavo's Cathedral in Ghent, home to the legendary Ghent Altarpiece, and the Belfry, a UNESCO-listed medieval bell tower overlooking the historic centre. Marvel at Saint Rumbold's Cathedral in Mechelen, along with its impressive belfry, both recognized for their historical and cultural significance. Wander through the vibrant university

town of Leuven, where the ornate University Library and the magnificent St. Peter's Church on the Grote Markt showcase the city's rich architectural and cultural heritage.



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### An Exceptional Museum Richness

Flanders is a paradise for art, history, and culture enthusiasts, with museums full of treasures waiting to be (re)discovered. The Museum of Fine Arts in Ghent houses masterpieces spanning centuries, while the STAM - Ghent City Museum offers an immersive journey through the city's rich past. The Groeninge Museum in Bruges showcases the finest examples of Flemish primitive painting, offering a deep dive into the region's artistic heritage.



The Plantin-Moretus Museum in Antwerp, a UNESCO World Heritage site, celebrates the history of printing, while the Royal Museum of Fine Arts (MSK) in Antwerp, recently reopened, is a must-see for its outstanding collection of Flemish and European art spanning from the 14th century to modern masterpieces. From contemporary galleries to historical collections, Flanders' museums offer something for every curious traveller, combining beauty, history, and immersive experiences that bring the past to life.

#### Majestic Castles and Architectural Treasures



Flanders is also home to a wealth of castles that bring centuries of history to life. Among the gems worth discovering are the 16th-century Ooidonk Castle, not far from Ghent, which enchants visitors with its Renaissance elegance and magnificent French-style gardens; Loppem Castle near Bruges, where richly decorated interiors and collections of period furniture immerse you in the daily life of Flemish

nobility; the picturesque Zellaer Castle close to Mechelen, surrounded by a romantic park and reflecting the charm of neo-Gothic architecture; and Bornem Castle on the banks of the River Scheldt near Antwerp, which offers a glimpse into the grandeur of Flemish noble residences.



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### **Gastronomy and Beer Culture**

Flanders seduces visitors with a gastronomy that is both hearty and refined, reflecting centuries of culinary tradition. Beer lovers will be in their element, with a multitude of local breweries offering both traditional and innovative creations. Tasting a Westvleteren, a Duvel, or a Kwak is the perfect way to discover the diversity and richness of Flemish brewing culture, whether in a cozy village café, a lively city bar, or during one of the many beer festivals that animate the region. Gastronomy also plays a starring role: indulge in specialties such as mussels with fries, the famous



Flemish beef stew slowly simmered in beer, the comforting Gentse Waterzooi, or the iconic Speculoos biscuits with their delicate spiced flavour. For an even more refined experience, Flanders is also home to several Michelin-starred restaurants, where creative chefs reinvent local traditions with innovation and elegance. Shared around convivial tables, these culinary delights embody the warmth and authenticity for which Flanders is renowned.

#### Personalized Services for Your Groups

To (re)discover Flanders and fully enjoy all that the region has to offer, don't hesitate to contact us at <u>Belgium and More</u> for tailor-made tour programs adapted to your clients' wishes and interests. Whether it's a cultural, gastronomic, professional, festive stay, or a trip with multiple motivations, let's design a unique and unforgettable experience for your clients.